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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-Hour Report

12 FEBRUARY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Roseville - Nurse Pleads Guilty In Drug Smuggling Case

(U) A California man has plead guilty to accepting \$5,000 in bribes to assist marijuana smugglers in a case linked to a former Border Patrol agent in South Texas. Daniel Hernandez, 46, is identified in court documents as a registered nurse and plead guilty last week to conspiracy to bribe a public official. Hernandez, who faces up to five years in federal prison, is described as an associate of the agent. Investigators say Hernandez and the agent, between 2013 and 2014, gave drug traffickers information on law enforcement sensor locations, keys to locks on ranch fences along the border and radios used by CBP agents.

SOURCE: 11 February 2019, AP

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – Canines Bust Two Smuggling Attempts of Methamphetamine

(U) Yuma – Border agents seized more than \$180,000 in methamphetamine in two separate stops at an immigration checkpoint on Interstate 8, according to authorities. Both seizures were made by Customs and Border Protection agents from the Yuma sector, according to a CBP media release. In the first smuggling attempt, a Border Patrol canine alerted agents to an odor coming from a 2013 Toyota Camry. When agents inspected the vehicle they found several packages of meth hidden in the body panels and under the floor. The packages weighed a total of 40.6 pounds with a street value of \$121,800. SOURCE: 11 February 2019, AZCentral

(U) NATIONAL

(U) New Jersey – New Jersey Man Accused of Detonating Explosive Devices, Having Pipe Bombs

(U) Middlesex – A man is accused of intentionally detonating explosive devices, possessing pipe bombs and of arson, according to authorities. Joseph M. Colucci, 59, of Middlesex Borough, was arrested and charged with one count of arson in the third degree, one count of possession of prohibited weapons and devices. Specific charges include destructive devices in the third degree and one count of causing or risking widespread injury or damage in the fourth degree, according to authorities.

SOURCE: 11 February 2019, NBC

(U) New York – UN Warns ISIS Losses Should Not Lead To Complacency

(U) New York City – The UN counter-terrorism chief warned that recent losses by ISIS extremists "should not lead to complacency at any level," saying the extremist group remains a global threat with up to 18,000 militants in Iraq and Syria. ISIS is reported to have created a network of cells in various cities in Afghanistan, including the capital Kabul, and is closely linked to its leaders in Syria and Iraq. They added the ISIS "center of gravity" remains in Iraq and Syria, where it reportedly controls between 14,000 and 18,000 militants, and maintains "an intent to generate internationally directed attacks." SOURCE: 11 February 2019, AP

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – EU Considers Response to China Hacking After UK Evidence

(U) Frankfurt – European Union member states are considering a possible joint response to cyberattacks allegedly conducted by a Chinese state-linked hacker group after the UK presented evidence last month about network infiltration, according to sources familiar with the matter. UK experts briefed EU colleagues at a technical meeting on 28 January, providing evidence of both software and hardware attacks by the group known as Advanced Persistent Threat 10 (APT 10). The focus on APT 10 is part of a broad clampdown by EU and the US on alleged espionage and intellectual property theft by China. The hacker group was at the center of indictments in December 2018 by the US Justice Department, which accused Chinese officials of orchestrating a decade-long espionage campaign that involved infiltrating companies in the US and more than a dozen other countries, drawing a strong denial from China. SOURCE: 11 February 2019, Bloomberg

(U) Israel – Police Nab Palestinian Carrying Cash to Fund Terror

(U) Abu Dis – Border Police officers arrested a Palestinian suspect at the Kiosk checkpoint in Abu Dis for holding funds intended to finance terrorist activities on 10 February, according to authorities. Soldiers apprehended the vehicle and arrested the suspicious driver and a female who was in the passenger seat. The cash was discovered while searching the vehicle. In addition, police found a stolen chip and checks. The suspect, a resident of Hebron in his 30s, was taken into custody for questioning. The woman was released on the scene.

SOURCE: 11 February 2019, The Jerusalem Post

(U) Poland – Authorities Detain Terrorism Suspect

(U) Warsaw – Poland has detained a Russian citizen of Chechen origin who is suspected of terrorism, according to open-source reporting. The suspect, identified only as Nurmagomed M. under Polish privacy laws, was detained by Polish border guards and Internal Security Agency (ABW) officers. The detainee had ties with terrorist organizations and was involved in providing such organizations with logistical support. The man has also been a member of an organized criminal group composed of Russians of Chechen origin. The group, dismantled by the ABW in 2018, had provided support to terrorist organizations.

SOURCE: 11 February 2019, Radio Poland

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